



AUGUST 2020

DISCOVER CHANNAHON

Information & News for the Channahon Community



MAYOR'S MESSAGE

As we approach the end of summer, we continue to find ourselves in uncharted territory. Organizations, administrations, communities and families find themselves faced with unprecedented challenges, making tough decisions in an ever changing landscape. The important thing to remember is that everyone is doing the best they can with the information and resources available. The best that we can all do as residents is to continue to support one another and our community.

Our local businesses still need our support. "Buy Local" takes on renewed importance. Our neighbors need our support, whether that be delivering supplies or a cheerful wave. Local charities are still working to support those in

need. Our young residents need additional support as they enter a school year that looks far different than any previous year. Our schools and educators need our support as they work to bring education to our young people while protecting their safety.

It sounds cliché to say we're all in this together, but it's true. Each and every person, organization, business, administration and group continues to be affected in any number of ways by the current pandemic. The answers are unclear at this time, and how the near future shapes up seems uncertain and changing sometimes daily.

Please remember that through all of this, our community remains strong. We are fortunate

to have each other and a community that pulls together in times of strife and need. Look out for each other and do what you can to help others. We're all dealing with the current circumstances as they continue to present themselves. Most of all, remember to simply be kind.

Have a great August. Enjoy the rest of the beautiful summer weather. Stay safe and take care of yourself and each other.

*Want to receive the Discover Channahon Newsletter sent directly to your email?
Visit www.channahon.org to sign up.*

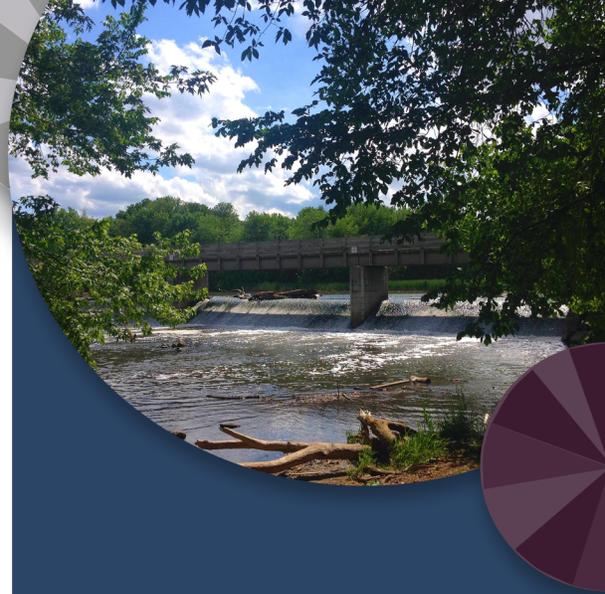
SOLICITOR SAFETY REMINDERS

Here are some tips to help keep you safe when someone comes knocking at your door:

- Don't open your door at odd hours. Solicitors shouldn't be knocking on your door before 10:00 a.m. or after 8:00 p.m.
- Use peep-holes or security cameras, such as Ring, to determine who is at your door.
- Refuse to open the door to anyone you don't know or aren't comfortable with. If a solicitor refuses to leave after being asked to, or becomes irate, call 911.
- Consider talking to sales people through the door, or security system - such as Ring.
- Don't be pressured to make a rushed purchase. Most products being sold door-to-door can be obtained by contacting the company directly.
- Never give solicitors personal information or disclose that you are home alone.
- Utilize "No Soliciting" signs near your door if you do not want door-to-door solicitation. These are available free of charge for pick up at the Village Hall or Police Department.
- Always ask to see their Village of Channahon solicitor's permit. If they can't or won't show you, politely end the conversation and call (815) 467-2112 to report them. You can always verify the validity of the Village's solicitor's permit by contacting the police.
- If you suspect a solicitor is not legitimate, take note of details you can observe, such as the person's personal appearance including height, approximate weight, hair and eye color, clothing description, and description of a vehicle if applicable, and contact police.
- Consider contacting your neighbors, and put them on alert.
- Avoid paying for goods and services up front. If you don't feel comfortable giving the solicitor any money, DON'T! Do not let anyone "guilt" you into giving them money or buying their product. If you've already purchased something from a solicitor, and have paid by check and no longer feel comfortable with the transaction, cancel the check as soon as possible. If a credit or debit card was used, contact your bank or credit card company and follow their recommendations.
- Don't crack under the pressure. You have no obligation to buy something "right now." You can ask them to make an appointment to come back when it's convenient for you. Reserve your right to say "no." The longer you engage in the conversation, the greater the chance you will commit to something.
- **At no time should you let anyone in your house, or be drawn outside your house!**
- Remember that you are in charge. If you feel intimidated, pressured or threatened at any time, **call 911.**

VOTER REGISTRATION

Not registered to vote or want to check your registration status? The Village of Channahon can help! The Village has a number of Deputy Registrars who can help ensure you're registered to vote in time for this year's election. Visit Village Hall or call 815-467-6644 for more information and details.



Local Business SPOTLIGHT

Business Name: Big Fish Grille

Business Address: 27425 S. Will Road



Owners: Tim Berner & Jackie Clisham

Founded/Established: 2009

Product/Service Offered: Seafood restaurant

Slogan/Motto: It's your destination for the best seafood around.

What makes your business unique to the Channahon area? We are an intimate restaurant with high quality food and great value. Our atmosphere is casual with a touch of sophistication without being stuffy. A great neighborhood place to enjoy awesome food, great beer, wine and spirits with family & friends.

What do you enjoy most about doing business in Channahon? Serving the customers and neighbors. It is a great place to have a small business.

What would you like Channahon residents to know about your business? We have something for everyone.

FOLLOW US



LABOR DAY HOLIDAY REMINDERS

Village Hall

The Village of Channahon will be closed on Monday, September 7 in observance of Labor Day. The Village's regularly scheduled Board Meeting for that Monday is pushed to Tuesday, September 8 due to the holiday.

Refuse Collection

As Labor Day (Monday, September 7) is a weekday holiday, refuse pickup by Environmental Recycling & Disposal will be delayed by one day for the entire week. For example, Monday residents will be collected on Tuesday, Tuesday residents will be collected on Wednesday, and so on. If you have any service-related questions, please contact Environmental directly at (815) 725-4555.

FALL VILLAGE WIDE GARAGE SALES CANCELED

In light of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the Village has decided to cancel the Fall Village Wide Garage Sales (September 10-12). While we are disappointed that we are unable to hold this event, we know it is the right decision for the safety and wellbeing of our residents based on the information we have today.

While the Village Wide Garage Sales have been canceled, residents may still host their own individual garage sales. We encourage residents to take the following precautions for themselves and potential customers should you choose to host your own garage sale:

- Display posters to remind customers about social distancing.
- Tables and chairs should be at least 6 feet apart.
- Use tape to direct visitors through the sale.
- Disinfect merchandise before putting it out for sale.
- Clean tables and chairs throughout the day.
- Supply hand sanitizer on tables and elsewhere for customers.
- Wear masks and disposable gloves.

PERMIT RESPONSIBILITY

When hiring a contractor to do work on your property, be sure to verify who is responsible for permitting. Many times an improvement contract contains language that states the homeowner is responsible for applying for and receiving a permit. Property owners are liable for work done on their property without a permit, as well as the contractors performing the work. Fines for working without a permit can be up to \$500.

Permit fees are \$7 per \$1,000 of improvement value (minimum \$70). Permit fees include the necessary inspections to ensure the contractor has performed the job adequately and improvements meet applicable building codes. If a contractor wishes to do the work without a permit, this could be a red flag that they may be trying to cut-corners and avoid inspections.

Most exterior improvements require a permit. There are some exceptions to this, with the most common being landscaping and brick paver patios. If you have any questions as to whether your project requires a permit, contact Mary Jane Larson in the Community Development Department at 815-467-8303 or email mlarson@channahon.org.



Local Business SPOTLIGHT

Business Name: Ewert's Automotive Inc.

Business Address: 24055 S. Municipal Drive

Owner: Matt Ewert, President

Founded/Established: 2009

Product/Service Offered: All automotive repairs including tires, alignments, routine maintenance, suspension, brakes, engine repairs, etc.

Slogan/Motto: Our customers are treated as though they are family - no upselling repairs that are not necessary.

What do you enjoy most about doing business in Channahon? Serving our community with honest, small town automotive service needs.



Know of a Channahon business that should be featured in an upcoming spotlight? Email sthompson@channahon.org

MAINTAIN YOUR LAWN TO PROTECT RIVERS & STREAMS

Lawn fertilizer contains nutrients, such as nitrogen and phosphorous, that encourage turfgrass to grow quickly. However, the fertilizer we put on our lawns also affects the health of our local rivers and streams. When it rains, stormwater picks up excess fertilizer on your lawn and sidewalk and brings it down storm drains that lead directly to local waterways. The same nutrients in fertilizers that encourage grass to grow cause algae in bodies of water to grow too. Algae harms water quality and fish, detracts from our waterway's natural beauty, and can even impact recreational opportunities like fishing and kayaking. If using fertilizer on your lawn, be sure to follow the product instructions and sweep excess fertilizer off hard surfaces like sidewalks.

ONLINE PAYMENT INFORMATION

The Village of Channahon continues to meet the needs of its residents in an ever-changing technological world. The Village provides a 24-hour payment option for utility bills, building permits or Administrative Compliance Tickets (ACT tickets) through the online payment portal found at www.channahon.org. Please have your utility bill, permit or citation (ACT ticket) available when processing your transaction online. Debit or credit card payments are accepted online in the following forms: Mastercard, Visa, Discover or American Express. Please allow up to 3 days for the payment to be processed. If a utility payment is being made to avoid termination of water services, please contact the Finance Department at 815-467-6644 to alert Village staff of the payment. A convenience fee is charged with each transaction by the credit card processing vendor. The Village of Channahon does not collect or benefit from the convenience fee and the fee is not able to be waived.

BANKING PAYMENTS MADE ONLINE

Many residents choose to pay utility bills from their online checking accounts (otherwise known as issuing a bank check). This payment involves a resident requesting the banking institution to create and mail a paper check to a vendor for a specific amount, on a requested date. Though the banking institution allows the choice of a payment date, please be advised that the banking institution cannot control the length of time in which it takes the paper check to be processed, mailed and received by the vendor.

Paying a time-sensitive bill with a bank check includes a risk of the payment being received late and assessed a late fee and penalty. A common misconception is that when payments are made through online banking, the funds are sent directly to the intended vendor on the date requested. Many people do not realize that when a payment request is made through online banking, a paper check is produced and mailed by the bank to the Village. Bank checks do not contain a United States Post Office postmark date on the envelope in which it is mailed. Therefore, there is no way for Village staff to determine if the bank check was sent in a timely manner. If the Village of Channahon receives the bank check after the due date, a late fee will be assessed. If issuing a bank check is a resident's preferred payment method, the Village of Channahon recommends doing so 7-10 days before the due date to ensure timely receipt of the payment. The Village offers several alternate payment methods to avoid potential late fees: automatic utility bill payment (ACH withdrawal), credit card payments or the drop box located in the Village Hall parking lot at 24555 S. Navajo Drive.



UPCOMING COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE & VILLAGE BOARD MEETINGS

Monday, August 3, 2020
6:00 p.m.

Monday, August 17, 2020
6:00 p.m.

Tuesday, September 8, 2020
6:00 p.m.

Monday, September 21, 2020
6:00 p.m.

CONTACT US

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